

Minute for Mission
2003 Mother's Day/Father's Day Offering
Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

**Please use this Minute for Mission in your worship service in preparation for the special offering*

Scripture: ***So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially those of the family of faith.*** Galatians 6:10

Mid-Atlantic Older Adult Ministries really lives by this short passage from Galatians – **working for the good of all** to bring a sense of shalom, or wholeness, to those who are on the journey of aging in our congregations.

While in our nation **13%** of the population is 65 yrs+, in our Presbyterian churches, **35%** of our members are in this age group. Within a decade, the Baby Boom will begin the journey into elderhood. They are currently providing eldercare and child care simultaneously, often referred to as the sandwich generation – and in many cases the sandwich has become a club sandwich as we experience 4 and 5 living generations.

It is important that we involve ourselves in supporting, nurturing, encouraging, and challenging elders and their families as they experience the blessings and challenges of aging. How can we, as the Body of Christ, be ready to meet the challenges of later life endeavors: engaging in responsible later life planning, ethical issues, grandparents raising and caring for grandchildren, opportunities for life-long learning and discipleship, sharing our stories with the next generation, forming circles of care around one another as needs arise.

By supporting the Mother's Day/Father's Day Offering, you not only honor your mother and your father, but you honor the God of All Ages through the work and ministry of Mid-Atlantic Older Adult Ministries and its network of Advocates of Aging in each presbytery. Your contributions are used for training Advocates, for developing web resources, offering workshops in your presbyteries, consultation with congregations, and retreats with elders.

So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially those of the family of faith.